

## Re: Mixing FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths

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*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/AIX-L/2006-12/msg00009.html>

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- *From:* [Andrew.Townsend@xxxxxxxxx](mailto:Andrew.Townsend@xxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* Tue, 5 Dec 2006 09:29:39 -0500
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That's exactly what we are doing here. Using SVC in the fabric and bringing on some FastT disks in an ESS environment. The fact that the FastT sits behind the SVC and the AIX node uses SDD to communicate with the SVC gets around any RDAC / SDD concerns.

Jeff  
Barratt-McCartney  
<jbarratt@COMPSAT To  
.COM> aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Sent by: IBM AIX cc  
Discussion List  
<aix-l@Princeton. Subject  
EDU> Re: Mixing FastT hdisks and ESS  
vpaths

12/05/2006 07:36  
AM

Please respond to  
IBM AIX  
Discussion List  
<aix-l@Princeton.  
EDU>

I agree with simon. As a business partner, one of our major functions is data migration, and this is the preferred method.

I assume the business partner is recommending that the RDAC controlled (FASTT) disk will be presented over a seperate set of HBAs(RDAC/SDD have conflicts).

Re: Mixing FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths

Another option for online migration with minimal service outage involves the implementation of SAN Volume Controllers; creating SVC image-mode disks of the ESS disk, and then migrating them to SVC controlled FASStT vdisks. This doesn't require a separate set of HBAs(SVC uses SDD), and requires only a minimal outage to convert the ESS disk to SVC image-mode disks. This method has been extremely successful for me, and is considerably less work than using mklvcopy/migratepv

-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List on behalf of Green, Simon  
Sent: Tue 12/5/2006 5:19 AM  
To: aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Subject: Re: Mixing FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths

I've never heard of such a thing and it seems very unlikely. LVM doesn't care what sort of disks they are – that's half the point of having it in the first place: so you deal with Logical not Physical storage. One could probably make a case that it's not a great idea from a long-term storage management perspective, but I can't see anything wrong with it as a transitory solution.

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Simon Green

-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List [<mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>] On Behalf Of AIX Geek  
Sent: 04 December 2006 23:05  
To: aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Subject: Mixing FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths

Can anyone point me to some documentation that says that FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths should \*NOT\* be mixed in a volume group?

Planning a migration (from Shark onto FastT) and the proposal on the table from a business partner is to add the FastT hdisks to the VG and mirror. Conceptually, it's OK. But other sources have called out the fact that IBM doesn't support FastT hdisks and ESS vpaths in the same volume group.

True, false, or true-with-caveats?